



STATISTICS FOR MISSION: JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2016

Church name:	Parish name:
Deanery:	Diocese:

REMINDER: PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM ONLINE IF POSSIBLE

<http://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/>

The online returns system has existing information about your church already saved. It automatically checks for typographical errors and minor mistakes and gives you the opportunity to revise your figures before final submission. You can see the data for your church over time and download copies for your records.

- ✓ Please complete this form for your **CHURCH**. If there is more than one church in your parish, then please complete and submit a separate form for each church
- ✓ Where activities – e.g. acts of worship in schools; conducting funeral services at crematoria - are shared between more than one church then please attempt, where possible, to ensure that they are only reported once
- ✓ Questions 1a and 1b about the **Electoral Roll** refer to the **ecclesiastical electoral roll**. Question 1a asks about the ecclesiastical electoral roll for your **parish**. Question 1b is optional and only applies if you are in a multi-church parish AND keep a separate roll for your church
- ✓ **Fresh expressions of Church** should be included in your numbers, unless they prefer to complete a separate return. For help in identifying fresh expressions of Church please visit <http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk> or use the “Choice tree” at the end of this form
- ✓ Please complete all questions as far as possible, using “0” or “unknown” or “no services” if necessary. Unless otherwise indicated, empty fields will be treated as incomplete and may be queried later as missing data
- ✓ In rare circumstances where a single congregation worships evenly between a number of churches (i.e. there is no difference in who attends and how often at each church), a single return may be submitted. The churches included in the return should be noted below

A single return is submitted on behalf of (please list all included churches here, with church codes if known):

1a. How many people were on the ecclesiastical electoral roll for your parish, as reported at your Annual Parochial Church meeting in 2016?

✓ Please write “unknown” if the figure is not available

1a. Number on the ecclesiastical Electoral Roll for your PARISH	
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If your parish has more than one church **and** also keeps a separate roll for your church, please **also** provide the total electoral roll for your church.

✓ Please write “N/A” if this is not applicable to your church

1b. How many people are on your church Electoral Roll?

1b. Number on the CHURCH Electoral Roll	
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The next question is about church attendance on a **“USUAL” SUNDAY**

- ✓ A usual Sunday is one that is not a major festival or contained in a peak holiday period
- ✓ Wherever possible, please do not count the same person multiple times – if someone attends more than once on a usual Sunday, please only count them once
- ✓ Only think about the Sundays when you hold at least one service (ignore the Sundays when you do not hold a service at your church)

2. How many people attend your church on a usual Sunday, when there is a service?

2a. Adults (16 years old and over)	
2b. Children and young people (under 16 years old)	

The following questions are about **how many people attended** a service or act of worship at **Easter** (Easter Day and vigil services on Easter Eve), **Advent** (Advent Sunday until 23rd December) and **Christmas** (Christmas Eve and Christmas Day).

- ✓ If you did not hold any services or acts of worship at your church during these periods, please enter “0” in the relevant box.

3. How many people came to your church at Easter 2016?

3a: Number of communicants at service(s) on Easter Day and vigil service on Easter Eve	
3b. Total number of people attending worship (including communicants) at service(s) on Easter Day and vigil service on Easter Eve	

4. How many people came to special services run by your church during Advent 2016?

- ✓ Include attendance at special services run by your church from Advent Sunday until 23rd December, for example nativities, carol services, carols on the green, crib services.

4a. Total number of people attending special services held for the congregation and local community	
4b. Total number of people attending special services held specifically for civic organisations or schools	

5. How many people came to your church at Christmas 2016?

5a. Number of communicants at service(s) on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day	
5b. Total number of people attending worship (including communicants) at service(s) on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day	

The next section is the **OCTOBER COUNT** of the number of people attending your church for **services and other acts of worship** in October. This includes the number of people attending on Sundays and during the week (Monday-Saturday).

- ✓ Please include any **fresh expressions of Church**, unless they have submitted their own return. A fresh expression of Church is a form of church established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet “members” of any church. For help identifying fresh expressions of Church, please visit <http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk> or use the “Choice tree” at the end of this form

You are asked to enter a count for each of the first 4 weeks of October 2016. The count is split into Sundays and weekdays; adults and children; and type of service (Church, fresh expressions of Church and school services).

Wherever possible, please **do not count the same person multiple times in the same week** – if someone attends your church more than once during Sunday, please only count them once. If someone attends on a Sunday, please do not include them again in the midweek count for that week.

Number of services: The number of services held on Sundays and weekdays. Enter “0” if there were none.

School services: These are services held in your church (or church building) that are attended by a school(s). There is a later question about acts of worship held in schools.

Adults: 16 years old and over. Please include those leading the service(s).

Children and young people: Under 16 years old.

Weekdays (Monday-Saturday): This should include people attending ONLY during the week and NOT on Sunday, i.e. if they have already attended a Sunday service, please try not to count them again if they attend another activity during the week.

Please INCLUDE:

- ✓ Clergy and other ministers attending or leading services
- ✓ Adults and children attending Sunday schools or equivalent activities
- ✓ Attendance at baptisms, including any visitors
- ✓ Any other church-based activities in which worship is the primary purpose and predominant feature
- ✓ Attendance at Communion outside the church, for example in homes, prisons, or hospitals (include as Church or Fresh expression attendance, as appropriate)

Please DO NOT INCLUDE:

- ✗ Attendance at weddings or funeral services
- ✗ Activities with only some worship element, such as house groups, parent and toddler groups, youth clubs, Alpha courses, and social events such as harvest suppers

6. How many people attended your church in October 2016?

- ✓ Please complete a count for each of the following four weeks
- ✓ Remember to count each person only once in any week, even if they attended more than once
- ✓ If there were exceptional circumstances that led to unusual October attendance figures in 2016, please let us know in the comment box at the end of this form

1.	Number of services	Adult			Children and young people		
		Church	Fresh expressions	School service	Church	Fresh expressions	School service
Sunday 2nd October							
Weekdays 3rd – 8th							

2.	Number of services	Adult			Children and young people		
		Church	Fresh expressions	School service	Church	Fresh expressions	School service
Sunday 9th October							
Weekdays 10th – 15th							

3.	Number of services	Adult			Children and young people		
		Church	Fresh expressions	School service	Church	Fresh expressions	School service
Sunday 16th October							
Weekdays 17th – 22nd							

4.	Number of services	Adult			Children and young people		
		Church	Fresh expressions	School service	Church	Fresh expressions	School service
Sunday 23rd October							
Weekdays 24th – 29th							

7. How often does your ministry team lead acts of worship in schools?

- ✓ This question refers to acts of worship in school buildings rather than in your church or church building (services held for schools in your church should be included within the October count, Easter or Christmas figures where appropriate)
- ✓ Please include any school-based acts of worship that are led by a person who holds office or responsibility for ministry within your church
- ✓ 'Usually' refers to during term-time or when the school is open, ignoring school holidays
- ✓ Please tick one box as the closest estimate

Never	Occasionally/ ad hoc	Usually once or twice a term	Usually once a month	Usually once a fortnight	Usually once a week	Usually more than once a week

The following questions are about your **“worshipping community”**. Think about your regular worshipping community at the **end of 2016**. For more information about worshipping communities, please refer to <http://www.churchofengland.org/media/1529895/worshippingcommunityinfo.pdf>

- ✓ Include anyone who attends your church regularly, for example at least once a month, or would attend if they were not prevented by illness, infirmity or temporary absence
- ✓ Include all congregations in your church, including fresh expressions of Church
- ✗ Do not include visitors, e.g. holidaymakers, baptism parties etc.
- ✗ Do not include people who consider their ‘home’ church to be another church
- ✗ Do not include people who left the church earlier in the year (they are counted in the next question as ‘leavers’) and are not part of your worshipping community at the end of 2016

8. How many people are in your **“worshipping community”** at the end of 2016?

- ✓ Please complete all of the boxes, as far as you can. If there is no-one in that category, please write “0”. If the age groups of your worshipping community are unknown, please enter the total figure only

TOTAL	Children (Age 0-10)	Young people (Age 11-17)	Adults (Age 18-69)	Adults (Age 70+)

9. How has your worshipping community changed during 2016?

- ✓ If you know how many people have left/joined your worshipping community but you do not know their reasons for leaving or joining, please enter the total figures (or your best estimates) only
- ✓ If there is no-one in a particular category, please write “0”
- ✓ **If you are unable to complete this question, please leave it blank**

9a. How many adults and children joined your worshipping community during 2016?					
	TOTAL	Worshipping for the first time	Moved into the area	Moved from a local church	Returned to church
Adults (Age 18+)					
Children and young people					

9b. How many adults and children left your worshipping community during 2016?					
	TOTAL	Death or illness	Moved away	Moved to a local church	Not worshipping anywhere
Adults (Age 18+)					
Children and young people					

The next questions are about **fresh expressions of Church**. A fresh expression of Church is a form of Church established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet “members” of any church. Here you are asked to describe aspects of the way the fresh expression of Church is run, rather than providing numbers attending.

- ✓ For help in identifying fresh expressions of Church please visit <http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk> or use the “Choice tree” at the end of this form
- ✓ Fresh expressions of Church can be quite varied. If you remain unsure about whether an activity or service meets the definition of a fresh expression, please **DO** include it here

- ✓ We have included space for three fresh expressions of Church. If you have more, please continue on an additional sheet
- ✗ Do not include Alpha courses or outreach activities that do not include worship

10. What regular fresh expressions of Church are supported by your church?

No fresh expressions of Church (If your church did NOT hold fresh expressions of Church during 2016 please tick here and leave the rest of this page blank.)

Name of fresh expression	
Description of activity	
Where is it held? (please tick all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Church <input type="checkbox"/> Church Hall <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please note where): _____
How often?	<input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Fortnightly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please note how often): _____
Age group aimed at? (please tick all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> ALL ages <input type="checkbox"/> Family <input type="checkbox"/> 0-4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5-10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11-17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18-39 <input type="checkbox"/> 40-69 <input type="checkbox"/> 70+
Are attendees also worshippers at other services in your parish? (please tick all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular <input type="checkbox"/> Previous attendees <input type="checkbox"/> Never

Name of fresh expression	
Description of activity	
Where is it held? (please tick all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Church <input type="checkbox"/> Church Hall <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please note where): _____
How often?	<input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Fortnightly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please note how often): _____
Age group aimed at? (please tick all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> ALL ages <input type="checkbox"/> Family <input type="checkbox"/> 0-4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5-10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11-17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18-39 <input type="checkbox"/> 40-69 <input type="checkbox"/> 70+
Are attendees also worshippers at other services in your parish? (please tick all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular <input type="checkbox"/> Previous attendees <input type="checkbox"/> Never

Name of fresh expression	
Description of activity	
Where is it held? (please tick all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Church <input type="checkbox"/> Church Hall <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please note where): _____
How often?	<input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Fortnightly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please note how often): _____
Age group aimed at? (please tick all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> ALL ages <input type="checkbox"/> Family <input type="checkbox"/> 0-4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5-10 <input type="checkbox"/> 11-17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18-39 <input type="checkbox"/> 40-69 <input type="checkbox"/> 70+
Are attendees also worshippers at other services in your parish? (please tick all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular <input type="checkbox"/> Previous attendees <input type="checkbox"/> Never

11. How many baptisms and thanksgivings for the gift of a child were held in your church during 2016?

- ✓ If separate services of thanksgiving and baptism were held for an individual both should be recorded here

	Infants (<1 year)	Children (1-4 years)	Children (5-12 years)	Youth/ adults (13+)
Number of persons baptised				
Number of children for whom a thanksgiving service for the gift of a child (birth or adoption) was held				

12. How many marriages and services of prayer and dedication after civil marriage were held in your church during 2016?

Number of couples married in your church	
Number of couples for whom a service of prayer and dedication was held in your church (after civil marriage)	

13. How many funeral services were held at or on behalf of your church during 2016?

- ✓ Include all funerals that were held at your church
- ✓ Include all funerals conducted by any member of your ministry team (including Readers, stipendiary clergy, non-stipendiary clergy and retired clergy) at a crematorium or cemetery
- ✗ Do not include services that performed only a burial of ashes or only a committal

Number of deceased for whom a funeral service was held at your church	
Number of deceased for whom a full funeral service was conducted by a member of your ministry team at a crematorium or cemetery , excluding committal only and burial of ashes only	

Finally, there is a special focus question about **visitors to your church**. In the following questions, by **visitors** we mean people coming into your church for reasons **other than** to attend services or to attend a particular group or activity (e.g. reasons for visiting would include coming to see the building and/or its artefacts; private prayer or reflection).

14a. How often is your church open to visitors outside of service times?

- ✓ Please tick one box as the closest estimate.

Never	Occasionally/ ad hoc	About 1-2 days a month	About 1-2 days each week	About 3-4 days each week	5 or more days each week

14b. For how many hours in a typical week (not including service times) is your church unlocked and open to visitors?

Number of hours the church is open to visitors in a typical week	
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14c. During a typical week, approximately how many visitors come to your church?

Number of visitors in a typical week	
Tick here if you are unable to estimate this figure	

Thank you for completing your annual return on behalf of your church. Please take a moment to review your answers. Make sure that you have completed every question as far as possible and not left any answers blank (use “0” or “unknown” or “no services” if necessary), aside from where instructed in question 9. Other blank answers may be queried with you later.

Please record below the contact details for the person who has completed this form (or the lead person if more than one individual has helped with the return).

Name:

Position:

email address:

Date of completion:

Looking back across 2016, were there any **exceptional circumstances** (e.g. an interregnum or building works) or **significant changes** that may have led to **unusual** figures in this return?

Is there **anything additional** that we should note when including your annual return within the Statistics for Mission?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form. Your contribution is essential to the on-going care and understanding of our churches and congregations; your diligence, time, and effort are greatly appreciated.

Identifying fresh expressions of Church: fresh expression choice tree

